



## BERINGIA PROJECTS OVERVIEW 1991 — 2011

The National Park Service funds projects in partnership with community organizations and academic institutions. The topics are of scientific and local importance in the Beringia Region of western Alaska and eastern Chukotka. Projects are from one to three years in length and includes Russian collaboration through comparative studies, exchange and training of participants, or translation of final reports. No new projects were funded or started in 2011.

### New Projects Funded in FY 2010

- Title: **Beringia: What's Climate Change to You?**  
Partner: GoNorth! Adventure Learning  
Contact: Mille Porsild  
Collaborators: Beringia Ethnic-Nature Park, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Natalia Kalyuzhina  
Ethnography Laboratory in Anadyr, scientists Vika Golbtseva and Vladislav Nuvano  
Beringia Tour Services  
Chukotka Science Group  
University of Alaska, Department of Anthropology, Dr. Sveta Yamin-Pasternak  
University of Colorado, Physics Education Research Group, Dr. Stephanie Viola Chasteen  
Collaboration with scientists from Woods Hole Research Center, NASA, and United Nations Environment Programme  
Location: Provideniya, Sireniki, Yanrakynnot, Lorino, Lavrentia, and Uelen  
Duration: 3 years  
Funding: \$37,000 in 2011, \$48,400 in 2012, \$49,610 in 2012

*This project was selected for funding in 2010, but was delayed in order to change partners from the University of Minnesota to the University of Alaska and the University of Colorado.*

This project will establish a local and sustainable framework to deliver *Beringia: What's Climate Change to You?* (WCCY) in Chukotka, Russia. This is part of a Pan-Arctic-American network where students and teachers partner with scientists to do science and explore climate change around the circumpolar arctic. The vehicle for WCCY is the "GoNorth," adven-





ture learning series. The youth-generated content is used by more than 3 million learners and is broadcasted to teachers in more than 4,500 schools across the 50 U.S. states and on 5 continents.

- Title: **Bowhead Coastal Observation Project - Chukotka**  
Partner: North Slope Borough, Alaska  
Contacts: Craig George, Cyd Hanns  
Collaborators: Russian Academy of Sciences, Dr. Vladimir Melnikov  
Association of Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka, Eduard Zdor  
Chukotka Science Support Group, Gennady Zelensky  
ChukotTINRO, Denis Litovka  
Location: Uelen and Sereniki, Russia (may change based on logistics and recommendations of colleagues in Chukotka)  
Duration: 3 year project  
Funding: \$34,022 in 2010, \$39,230 in 2011, \$47,216 in 2012

This project will study the distribution and abundance of the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bowhead whale population and document mammal sightings off the coast of Chukotka for three years, from 2010-2012. Continuing coastal observations fills a critical need in continuing the nearly 20-year program, especially now when the effects of climate changes are causing rapid changes in the ecosystem. This research parallels research in Alaska, both of which provide information on regional bowhead populations.

- Title: **Climate Change: a View Through the Prism of Steller's Sea Cow Extinction**  
Partner: University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
Contact: Dr. Alexander Burdin  
Collaborators: Florida Atlantic University, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Dr. O'Corry-Crowe  
Mote Marine Laboratory, Florida; Dr. John Reynolds, III  
Kamchatka branch of the Pacific Institute of Geography  
Russian Academy of Science in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky  
Commander Island State Preserve, Dr. S. V. Zagrebels  
Nikolskoe High School and village members.  
Location: Commander Islands, Chukotka  
Duration: 2 years  
Funding: \$39,762 in 2010, \$38,200 in 2011

When discovered in 1741, Steller's sea cow had already been reduced from a wide North Pacific range to a relict population around the Commander Islands. By 1768, the last sea cow was killed on Bering Island. While hunting seems to have been the ultimate cause of the species extinction this project will test the hypothesis as to whether factors related to climate change influenced the eventual extinction of this last giant Beringian mammal.

- Title: **Creating a Modern Map of Submerged Beringia — The Bridge that Endures Time**





Partner : Alaska-Siberia Research Center, -  
Contact: Alexander Dolitsky, Executive Director  
Collaborators: Oceanus Alaska, Michelle Ridgway, principal investigator  
TJ Howland, Chief of Hydrographic Surveys, Terrasond Limited  
Dr. David Scholl, U.S. Geological Survey and Stanford University  
Candace Stepetin, Pribilovian Native and liaison to Russian and U.S.  
Native communities  
Location: Submerged Beringian region, Russian and U.S. waters  
Duration: 1 year  
Funding: \$35,050 in FY10

The principal investigators will develop a geospatial database of the best available data from the U.S., Russia, and other sources to create a modern seafloor map of submerged Beringia. Both the visual map of modern underwater Beringia and the database generated will serve as a resource for archaeologists examining migration routes between the continents, as well as significantly updated geospatial reference for geologists and other scientists eager to examine undersea life during and subsequent to climate regimes.

- Title: **Exchange Between Artists of Alaska and the Chukotka**  
*This project was selected in fiscal year 2010, implementation in 2011 conditional upon securing additional funding.*  
Partner: Alaska International Education Foundation.  
Contact: Ramona Duby  
Collaborators: Uelen Carving Workshop, Chukotka  
Uelen Printmaking Workshop, Olga Gogoleva  
Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska, Anchorage  
Location: Uelen, Russia; Nome, Kotzebue, and Anchorage, Alaska  
Duration: 2-3 year project (contingent on prior year results)  
Funding: *Revised 12/2010:* \$10,000 possible in 2011 (dependent on securing other funding, originally \$20,565 planned); \$20,565 in 2012, and upon prior performance \$20,565 in 2012

This project will bring a group of four ivory carvers from the village of Uelen to Nome, Kotzebue, and Anchorage. The group will meet with artists and Native people and describe their system for training new artists and continuing traditional art. They will also continue the process of learning how to adapt the skills they developed for carving scrimshaw to the art of printmaking.

- Title: **Indigenous Knowledge and Use of Bering Strait Region Ocean Currents**  
Partner: Kawerak, Inc.  
Contact: Julie Raymond-Yakoubian  
Collaborator: ChukotTINRO, Pacific Scientific Research Fisheries Center, Dr. Yury Khokhlov





Location: Alaska: Diomed, Wales, Shishmaref  
Chukotka: Lorino, Lavrentiya, Inchoun  
Duration: 3 years  
Funding: \$20,000 in 2010, \$33,251 in 2011, \$45,000 in 2012

This project will document the traditional and contemporary use of and knowledge about ocean currents by three Alaskan and three Russian communities in the Bering Strait region. This knowledge, which includes a record of changes through time, has value for ocean travel and tracking climate change effects, and is quickly being lost with the passing of older generations. The project involves collaboration between an Alaska Native non-profit, Russian researchers, and local communities, and will assist with the on-going process of re-establishing ties broken in the Cold War.

- Title: **Indigenous Language Learning and Documentation in the Bering Strait**  
Partner: Smithsonian Institution.  
Contact: Aron L. Crowell  
Collaborators: Regional cultural organizations and language programs  
Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
Alaska Native Language Archive, University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
Location: Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska  
Duration: 3 years  
Funding: \$35,999 in 2010, \$45,000 in 2011, \$46,000 in 2012

The future of indigenous languages around the Bering Strait is severely threatened. The Arctic Studies Center (ASC) will work with elder fluent speakers of the Inupiaq and St. Lawrence Island/Siberian Yupik languages to produce extensive linguistic recordings and documentation of heritage objects (made 1850s-1950s) that are included in the Smithsonian exhibition *Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska* at the Anchorage Museum. The ASC will work with Beringian region language educators to edit these recordings (video and audio) into language teaching tools and community source books with English alphabet transcriptions and English translations, and Cyrillic transcriptions and Russian translations.

- Title: **Telling Our Stories, Vodcasts of the Suqpiak Collections of the Kunstkamera and the Cape Alitak Petroglyph Survey**  
Partner: Alutiiq Museum  
Contact: Sven D. Haakanson, Jr., Executive Director  
Collaborators: WonderVisions, Elizabeth O'Connell  
Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography  
Various Suqpiak leaders, artists and anthropologists  
Location: St. Petersburg, Russia and Cape Alitak, Alaska  
Duration: 2 years  
Funding: \$18,580 in 2010, \$12,000 in 2011





This funding adds the creation of 12 video podcasts or vodcasts to the production of an annotated catalog of the Sugpiaq Collections of the Kunstkamera, a current project that is reuniting Alaska's Sugpiaq community with ancestral objects stored in the Peter the Great Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. Through vodcasts produced in Russian and English, Sugpiaq leaders, artists, and anthropologists can speak directly to multiple audiences.

### Projects Funded in FY 2009

- Title: **Brown Bear Working Group**  
Partner: The Northern Forum  
Contact: Natalie Novik  
Collaborators:  
Location:  
Duration: 1 year  
Funding: \$20,000 in 2009

This project will support the seventh Brown Bear Workshop in the Sakha Republic in the Russian Far East. Topics to be discussed include bear management in industrialized areas; assessing genetic studies of brown bear populations around the Pacific Rim and developing cooperation between specialists for brown bear watching, poaching control, and public bear education.

- Title: **Early Humans in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve**  
Partner: Texas A&M University  
Contact: Ted Goebel  
Collaborators: Center for the Study of the First Americans, Texas A&M University  
Russian Academy of Sciences, archeologist S. Slobodin  
Bering Strait Native Corporation  
Location: Bering Land Bridge National Preserve  
Duration: 1 year  
Funding: \$33,127

Archaeologists have long looked to Beringia for clues about the origins of the first Americans. To date, Beringia has not revealed a clear archaeological ancestor that resembles and pre-dates Clovis, the earliest unequivocal complex of sites, dated to about 13,000 years ago with its signature lanceolate-shaped, fluted spear points. A newly discovered site located near Serpentine Hot Springs in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve may provide the evidence needed to solve the Alaska fluted-point problem.

- Title: **Encounters Radio Broadcast**  
Partner: The Island Institute  
Contact: Lisa Busch  
Collaborators: to be determined  
Location: Central Beringia subject matter, broadcast nationally





Duration: 2 years  
Funding: \$11,000 in 2009, \$15,000 in 2010

The Island Institute plans to expand *Encounters: Radio Experiences in the North* to cover more of the circumpolar north by producing two 29-minute segments in the Central Beringia region. *Encounters* is a regular weekly, nationally distributed public radio program about the human traditions of the northern polar region. The program presents scientific information and indigenous knowledge about the natural environment in a widely distributed and easily accessible audio format.

- Title: **Health Evaluation of Walrus**  
Partner: North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife Management  
Contact: Cheryl Rosa  
Collaborators: Arctic Research Commission, Cheryl Rosa  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Gay Sheffield  
ChukotTINRO, Denis Litovka  
Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters (ATMMHC),  
Eduard Zdor  
Chukotka Science Support Group (CSSG), Gennady Zelensky  
Location: Chukotka, Russia  
Duration: 3 years (extended)  
Funding: No funding in 2009, \$21,069 in 2010, \$3,500 in 2011 to cover travel cancellation cost in 2011; \$21,236 in 2012

This community based project will proactively monitor walrus as the arctic environment is altered. A multi-disciplinary assessment will be conducted of body conditions and health-related parameters for an important arctic subsistence species. The data collected will advance the knowledge of arctic pinniped biology and will include comprehensive data management plans that will serve as templates for future health assessment and monitoring of the species. This project moved from the North Slope Borough to Kawerak, Inc., due to the change staffing. In 2010, weather prevented travel to Chukotka to complete field work planned for September.

- Title: **Kivetoruk Moses — Inupiaq Artist**  
Partner: University of Alaska - Fairbanks  
Contact: David Mollett  
Location:  
Duration: 1 year  
Funding: \$15,000

Beringia funding will support field work to gather first-hand accounts from people who knew or had a connection to Moses and his work. The final product will be a book containing a biography, artistic analysis, and collection of high quality reproductions of Moses' work (still in progress).







- Title: **Preserving Our Knowledge**  
Partner: Smithsonian Institution  
Contact: Igor Krupnik  
Collaborators: Institute for Russian Cultural and Natural Heritage,  
Lyudmila Bogoslovskaya  
Chukotka Local Language/Knowledge Experts  
Shaktoolik Local Language/Knowledge Experts  
Location: New Chaplino and Sireniki, Chukotka; Wales, Gambell, and  
Shaktoolik, Alaska  
Duration: 2 years  
Funding: \$20,000 in 2009, \$20,000 in 2010

This will be a joint Beringian focused heritage program to document endangered environmental and subsistence terminologies in five communities in Alaska and Russia: New Chaplino, Sireniki, Wales, Gambell and Shaktoolik. Cultural and language specialists will collect indigenous terms and will produce illustrated thematic lexicons in St. Lawrence Island/ Siberian Yupik and in Inupiaq.

- Title: **Sugpiaq Kunstkamera Catalog**  
Partner: Alutiiq Museum  
Contact: Sven Haakanson, Jr.  
Collaborators: Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography;  
Various Sugpiaq leaders, artists and anthropologists.  
Location: Moscow, Russia and Kodiak, Alaska  
Duration: 2 years  
Funding: \$17,812 in 2009, \$15,265 in 2010

For two centuries, European museums have cared for ethnographic collections from Alaska. These collections hold some of the last traditionally made Alaska Native objects and are an unparalleled store of ancestral knowledge. The Alutiiq and Kunstkamera museums will collaborate on the development of an annotated catalog of Sugpiaq holdings.

- Title: **Understanding the Evolutionary Relationship of Beringian Plants**  
Partner: University of Alaska Museum  
Contact: Stefanie Ickert-Bond, Curator, UAF Museum Herbarium  
Collaborators: Komarov Botanical Institute (St. Petersburg), Russian Academy of Sciences, Vladimir Yu. Razzhivin, professor, Co-PI  
Beringia Nature Ethnic Park, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Natalia Kalyuzhina, Superintendent  
Location: 10 locations in the Beringia Nature Ethnic Park, Chukotka  
Duration: 1 year (extended 1 year)  
Funding: \$25,000 in 2009, \$2,350 in 2010





This field project will integrate biogeographic and phylogenetic data to unravel the evolutionary relationships among Beringian plants as well as further document, with specimens, the rich flora of this region. This work springs from their long interest in the origin and evolution of the flora of Alaska. Field work was delayed from 2009, and was successfully completed during the summer of 2010. Samples were held at the Komarov Botanical Institute until transfer to Alaska could be arranged and the subsequent analysis conducted. The final report is still expected by fall 2012.

### Projects Funded in FY 2008

- Title: **Alaska/Chukotka Climate Change Examination**  
Partner: West Anchorage High School  
Contact: Michele Whaley  
Collaborators: Chukotka Multi-Discipline College, Anadyr'  
Location: Anchorage, Alaska; and Anadyr', Chukotka  
Duration: 3 years  
Funding: \$30,000 in 2008, \$32,000 in 2009, \$32,000 in 2010

Students from West High School in Anchorage, Alaska, will collaborate in a three-year project with high school students from the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug to research the effects of climate change in their regions and discuss the efforts teenagers are making to protect and conserve their environment. To gather their data, students will interview Native elders, scientists, and local and regional leaders. Summer exchange planned for 2010 was delayed to 2011. West High students are researching, planning, and meeting with officials in advance of the summer exchange.

- Title: **Finding the Lost Dances**  
Partner: Native Village of Kotzebue  
Contact: D'Anne Hamilton  
Collaborators: Tribal government of the Qikiktagrukmiut peoples, Kotzebue, Alaska  
Russian Native youth dancers, New Chaplino and Provideniya, Russia  
Throat Singers in New Chaplino, Russia  
Inuit Circumpolar Conference, Barrow, Alaska  
Location: Kotzebue, Alaska; and New Chaplino and Provideniya, Chukotka  
Duration: 1 year (extended until January, 2011)  
Funding: \$43,320

This is a cross-cultural exchange program between Alaska Native youth of Kotzebue and Russian Native youth of the Chukotka region. It builds off the 2005, 3-year project "Arctic Teens Speak Out." Kotzebue students met with traditional young dancers in New Chaplino and Provideniya and shared impressions about life in their own communities. The visit was documented on video. The youth are learning post-production skills as they create a documentary. The final DVD is expected January 2011. The production exceeds the original proposal both in quality and scope. Added benefits include community economic







development for local video and film production. They are also producing a trailer for Russian communities and partners.

- Title: **Inupiaq Landscapes and Architecture**  
Partner: University of Washington  
Contact: Carol Jolles  
Collaborators: Diomedes Traditional Native Knowledge Experts  
Wales Traditional Native Knowledge Experts  
Anadyr Museum, Galena Diatchkova  
Center for Advanced Research Technologies, Department of Arts and Humanities, University of Washington  
Eskimo Heritage Center, Kawerak, Inc.  
Location: Wales and Diomedes Islands  
Duration: 3 years (extended)  
Funding: \$10,000 in 2008, \$14,600 in 2009, \$8,000 in 2010, and 20,000 in 2011

This social science research and educational project will document the cultural, social, and economic changes in the Native villages of Diomedes and Wales during the last 40 to 50 years. Topics to be studied will include Inupiaq place names, subsistence sites, community architecture, and family histories. Project funding and schedule was revised to accommodate change in funding availability in 2009; and the suspension of air transportation to Little Diomedes and the passing away of a team member in 2010.

### Projects Funded in FY 2007

- Title: **Archaeological Testing at North Fork**  
Partner: Gates of the Arctic National Park  
Contact: Jeff Rasic, National Park Service  
Andrew H. Tremayne, University of Wyoming  
Collaborators: University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
Beta Analytic (radiometric dating facility), Florida, U.S.  
Location: North Fork of Koyukuk River, northern Alaska  
Duration: 1 year  
Funding: \$4,000 in 2007

In conjunction with the University of Alaska, test excavations were conducted along the North Fork of the Koyukuk River in northern Alaska. The site is a stone-tool and debitage-scatter location containing a fluted projectile point, a hall mark of Clovis, the first widespread culture present in the Americas about 11,000-11,500 years before present.

- Title: **Bilateral Walrus Monitoring**  
Partner: Eskimo Walrus Commission, Kawerak, Inc.  
Contact: Vera Metcalf





Collaborators: Association of Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka (ATMMHC)  
Naukan Native Cooperative  
Yupik Society of Eskimos of Chukotka  
Chukotka Scientific Support Group (CSSG)  
Chukotka TINRO  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Location: Eight villages of the Chukotskiy and Providenskiy districts of Chukotka:  
Lorino, Uelen, Inchoun, Enurmino, New Chaplino, Sireniki, Enmelen,  
Yanrakynnot  
Duration: 3 years  
Finding: \$32,363 in 2007; \$35,000 in 2008; \$37,500 in 2009

The Pacific walrus is represented by a single stock of animals that inhabits the continental shelf waters of the Bering and Chukchi seas. The population ranges across international boundaries of the United States and Russia. This project continued to develop bilateral relations with Chukotka in a manner that fostered mutual understanding and cooperation, focused on the continued subsistence use of walrus, and helped reestablish cultural connections between Chukotka and Alaska. The final deliverable is a revised map of the range of Pacific Walrus including walrus harvesting communities, known haul-outs, and migration corridors. It will also be translated and produced in Russian, and shared with Chukotkan communities. Expected in 2011.

- Title: **Cultural & Environmental Youth Exchange**  
Partner: Nome Community Center  
Contact: Lance Johnson (2010) Bruce Klein (2007)  
Collaborators: not reported  
Location: Nome, Alaska; and Anadyr' and Provideniya, Chukotka  
Duration: 3 years (extended to a fourth year)  
Funding: \$49,999 in 2007, \$22,051 in 2008, \$35,000 in 2009 (extended in 2010)

The Nome Community Center, Inc., a non-profit agency in Alaska, in partnership with a local Russian youth organization, is in the final year of a three-year cultural and environmental studies exchange program for youth in Chukotka and Alaska. Youth will travel between the communities of Nome, Anadyr, and Provideniya during a three-year period. They will stay in each other's homes and will take part in outdoor activities, learn computer skills and videography.

The project was extended for a fourth year to allow Alaska students to travel to Russia in the summer of 2009. Travel complications in 2009 forced organizers to delay this travel for a year. The trip was successfully taken in the summer of 2010. This completes the Cultural and Environmental Youth Exchange project with the Nome Community Center, begun in 2007.

- Title: **Cultural Exchange with Uelkal, Chukotka**  
Partner: Native Village of Savoonga  
Contact: John Waghiyi





The Siberian Yupik people of Uelkal relocated from the community of Chaplino in the year 1928 to establish closer economic ties with the furbearing trade market of Anadyr', Chukotka. The St. Lawrence Island community lost all ties with Uelkal relatives since that move. The goal of the project is to establish ties once again with the people of Uelkal by bringing them to Savoonga.

- **Title:** **Old Whaling Culture in Chukotka**  
**Partner:** University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska Museum  
**Contact:** Daniel Odess  
**Collaborators:** The University of Alaska Museum  
Institute of Heritage in Moscow  
The Kunstkamera Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (St. Petersburg)  
Richard Stockton College  
Yup'ik high school student  
**Location:** Provideniya and Nunligran, Russia  
**Duration:** 3 years  
**Funding:** \$32,363 in 2007; \$35,000 in 2008; \$37,500 in 2009

This project aims to conduct and report on explanatory archaeological research on the Old Whaling culture in Chukotka, Russia. Alaskan and Russian archaeologists are working together to investigate the Un'an'an culture. This culture dates back to three thousand years ago and was recently discovered in southwestern Chukotka. Presence of this culture was discovered in Alaska, at Cape Krusenstern, in the early 1960s. However, this is the first evidence of the culture found in Russia. Old Whaling is important to Eskimo culture because its members are thought to be the first people to hunt baleen whales in the Bering Strait area. The research is designed to answer: *What is the nature of the Old Whaling occupation at Un'an'an, and how is it related to the Old Whaling occupation at cape Krusenstern? What evidence is there for cultural ties across the Bering Strait around 3,000 years ago? How did people at Un'an'an make a living, how thoroughly were they adapted to cold-maritime living, and did the people who lived there hunt whales?* Final report is past due.

- **Title:** **Reindeer Bridge of Beringia**  
**Partner:** Center for Environmental Economic Development  
**Contact:** Ruthanne Cecil, Faith Fjeld, and Nathan Muus  
**Collaborators:** Kawerak Reindeer Herders Association  
University of Alaska at Fairbanks  
Polar Research Archives of the Rasmussen Library  
Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution  
Alaska Native regional organizations  
**Location:** Chukotka Peninsula: Anadyr', Lavrentia, and Provideniya  
Seward Peninsula: Nome, Brevig Mission, Shishmaref, Teller, and Wales  
Western Arctic: Kotzebue, Buckland, Candle, Deering, and Selawik  
St. Lawrence Island: Gambell and Savoonga  
**Duration:** 3 years





**Funding:** \$38,000 in 2007; \$35,000 in 2008; \$35,000 in 2009

Reindeer are not native to Alaska. In the late 1800s, the coming of reindeer and reindeer herding to Alaska created a cultural bridge that forever connected four Indigenous Arctic Peoples: the Chukchi, the Inupiaq, the Saami, and the Yup'ik. This project will focus on the introduction of reindeer herding in Alaska. The principle investigator will interview descendents of the Saami herders who came to train local herders and will travel to Chukotka to study their contribution to Alaska herding. They will produce a book on the reindeer legacy of Beringia, edited by the Saami Báiki staff and published by the National Park Service with contributions from various researchers and tradition bearers. Expected in 2011.

- **Title:** Sea Ice Knowledge and Use  
**Partner:** The Smithsonian Institution  
**Contact:** Igor Krupnik  
**Duration:** 2 years (phases 3 & 4 added in 2009)  
**Funding:** \$18,532 in 2007, \$36,350 in 2008

Sea ice is a fundamental feature of the polar environment; it is also one of the most tangible indicators of its change. Phases 1 & 2 of this project expanded Beringian residents' participation in the International Polar Year through local sea ice observation, sharing of ecological knowledge, and the documentation of indigenous ice forecasting and navigational practices. Phases 3 & 4 were added to the project in 2009, and is are described under "Preserving Our Knowledge."

### Projects Funded in FY 2006

- **Title:** Climate, Sea Ice & Walrus Hunting  
**Partner:** University of Alaska - Fairbanks  
**Contact:** Martin Robards

This project seeks to address requests for information about the repercussions of Arctic climate change on subsistence walrus hunting in the Bering and Chukchi seas. Records on ice and climate change, together with available historical data and local perspectives of subsistence hunters will be studied.

- **Title:** Cultural and Environmental Youth Exchange  
**Partner:** Nome Community Center  
**Contact:** Bruce Klein

Youth will travel between the communities of Nome, Anadyr and Provideniya over a three-year period. They will stay in each others homes and will take part in out door activities, computer skills and videography.

- **Title:** Inupiaq Artifacts and Bering Strait History  
**Partner:** Native Village of Kotzebue





Contact: Amber Lincoln

Access is being provided to Beringian communities of a collection of photographs, archival information and museum pieces collected by British officers in the early 1800's and now housed in British museums.

- Title: **Koryak Exhibit**  
Partner: Museum of the Aleutians  
Contact: Zoya Johnson

An exhibit "Creation of the World: the Spiritual Culture of the Koryaks" from Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka, Russia was on display in 2006 at the Museum of the Aleutians.

- Title: **Microblade Mysteries**  
Partner: Gates of the Arctic National Park  
Contact: Jeff Rasic

The University of Alaska - Anchorage and Gates of the Arctic NP conducted archaeological investigations at the Rosaliya site, a prehistoric site on the Killik River in northern Alaska.

- Title: **Native Planning & Mgmt. Chukotka Park**  
Partner: Bering Straits Foundation  
Contact: Matt Ganley

This project will focus on forging closer ties between Nome, Kotzebue and Provideniya in park operations. Part of the process is to inform the surrounding communities regarding park planning and operations. A second goal is to conduct park to park exchanges of staff and scientific studies.

- Title: **Record of Beringian Trade**  
Partner: University of Alaska – Anchorage  
Contact: Andrew Crow

Information is being collected on trade between Alaska and Chukotka in the beginning of the 20th century. The project will create a bibliography of the historical records of this trade, begin the process of cataloging the sites and current condition of former American trading posts in Chukotka.

### Projects Funded in FY 2005

- Title: **Alaska Submerged Cultural Heritage**  
Partner: Alaska Office of History & Archaeology  
Contact: Dave McMahan

A Russian/English publication will be produced on the underwater archaeology of the Kad'yak, the oldest sunken vessel discovered in Alaska. This wooden three-masted bark of 477 tons was





owned by the Russian-American Company and sunk in March 1860.

- Title: **Arctic Teens Speak Out**  
Partner: Native Village of Kotzebue  
Contact: D'Anne Hamilton

This is a cross-cultural exchange program between Alaska Native youth of Kotzebue and Russian Native youth of Chukotka. Youth will learn videography and document their interactions in both traditional and modern shared activities.

- Title: **Brown Bear Management Workshop**  
Partner: The Northern Forum  
Contact: Natalie Novik

Support will be provided for Alaskan and Chukotkan delegates to attend the 5th Brown Bear Workshop, scheduled for August 2005 in Kamchatka. This workshop brings together brown bear specialists from the Russian Far East, Alaska and Japan.

- Title: **Heritage Preservation Plan**  
Partner: Native Village of Deering  
Contact: Roberta Moto

Long-term planning will be undertaken for the disposition, permanent storage and/or display of a remarkable collection of artifacts, excavated in Deering from 1997-1999.

- Title: **Mapping a Hunting Landscape**  
Partner: University of Alaska - Anchorage  
Contact: Aaron Wilson

This project will study the area around Agiak Lake in Gates of the Arctic National Park. Perhaps the most fascinating story to be told at this site revolves around the hundreds of sentinel-like inuksuit that stand watch over the lake. The rock cairns, positioned in two rows, each nearly a mile long and remarkably straight, were used like fences or scarecrows to direct herds of caribou towards the lake.

- Title: **Prehistoric Maritime Adaptations**  
Partner: Washington State University  
Contact: Robert Ackerman

Conference support will be provided for "Archaeology of the Northern Pacific During the End of the Pleistocene and Holocene Periods" to be held in September 2005 at the Northern International University in Magadan, Russia.

- Title: **Remember the Past, Ensure the Future**  
Partner: Nome Community Center  
Contact: Bruce Klein







Fifty Chukotkan youth will engage in year-round activities under the guidance of the Kaira Club in Anadyr. The project aims to restore interest and respect for local indigenous culture and subsistence practices, improve communication between youth and elders and integrate traditional and modern concepts of environmental stewardship.

- Title: **Teller Cultural Festival**  
Partner: Native Village of Teller  
Contact: Charlene Isabell

Teller will organize a cultural gathering and invite the community of Uelen. The gathering will be a sharing of the past with an emphasis on remembering those bonds of music, dance and history that once connected the communities across the Bering Strait. Elders will share their knowledge of Inupiaq personal names, history and songs. Youth will document the event and produce DVD and audio tapes to be used in the school curriculum.

- Title: **Ties that Bind**  
Partner: Kawerak, Inc  
Contact: Katie Bourdon

Historical, cultural and kinship ties between Big and Little Diomedes will be reestablished. Local field researchers will gather historical information on trade routes, village relationships, art and history. They will also compare customs, traditions and subsistence lifestyles of the past and present.

#### Projects Funded in FY 2004

- Title: **Archaeological Mentorship**  
Partner: National Park Service  
Contact: Becky Saleeby

The NPS is mentoring students in Beringian villages and incorporating them into on-going field work in our parks the next three summers.

- Title: **Community Based Monitoring of the Bering Sea**  
Partner: Pribilof School District  
Contact: Karin Holser

Five Alaskan villages (Kotzebue, Unalakleet, Elim, St. Paul, St. George) and three Chukotkan villages (Anadyr, Lavrentiya, Lorino) in the Bering Sea region will take part in this student project to gather environmental and cultural observations.

- Title: **Contemporary Beringian Archaeological Papers**  
Partner: University of Oregon  
Contact: Richard Bland





This will be another in a series of translations by Richard Bland. This publication will be a contemporary collection of Russian and American scientists.

- Title: **Indigenous Interpretation of Beringian Collections**  
Partner: Smithsonian Institution – Arctic Studies Center  
Contact: Aron Crowell

The Arctic Studies Center is working with Alaska and Russian Native Elders and communities to share indigenous knowledge about cultural heritage objects in the collections of the Smithsonian Institution. A website is being developed to house this information in English and Russian.

- Title: **Kingikmiut Dance Festival**  
Partner: Native Village of Wales  
Contact: Winton Weyapuk, Jr.

The Village of Wales held their 5th annual dance festival in June, 2004. Before this dance revival, the last Kivgiq celebration was held in Wales in 1943. The National Park Service provided funding to bring dance groups from Uelen, Chukotka and Point Hope, Alaska. Wales is 55 miles from the Russian mainland coast.

- Title: **Russian version of Important Bird Areas of the Bering Sea**  
Partner: National Audubon Society  
Contact: Olga Romanenko

This is another Audubon project that will produce a Russian version of the Important Bird Areas of the Bering Sea. The English version, funded by the Beringia Program, will also be released.

- Title: **Synthesis of Ten Years of Beringian Research**  
Partner: Barrow Arctic Science Consortium  
Contact: John Tichotsky

This will be a book manuscript discussing the past ten years of Beringian research that has occurred between Alaska and Chukotka.

- Title: **Taxonomic Listing of Beringian Fauna**  
Partner: National Audubon Society  
Contact: Olga Romanenko

This project will update the popular Beringian biota publication of species names in English, Russian, Latin, Yupik and Inupiat. A database will also be developed.

- Title: **The Biting Flies of Beringia: Their Biodiversity & Pest Status**  
Partner: Clemson University  
Contact: Peter Adler





This is base-line field research in the Nome area in the summer of 2004 on biting flies (mosquitoes and black flies). Work in Chukotka will take place in 2005.

### Sample of Prior Year Projects

- Partner: North Slope Borough, Dept. of Wildlife Mgmt.  
Title: **Biosampling of Gray & Bowhead Whales**  
Contact: Craig George

The Borough's Department of Wildlife Management will continue their pioneering studies funded by previous NPS projects to work with Russian Native organizations to sample whales along the coast of Chukotka for contaminants.

- Partner: Alaska Nanuuq Commission  
Title: **Cultural Values of Polar Bear in Chukotka**  
Contact: Charles Johnson

Work will be conducted with the Association of Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka on traditional social values of the polar bear. Oral traditions on the cultural role of polar bears to Native people of Chukotka will be collected through interviews of elders and other knowledgeable people. A bibliography of Russian written and recorded materials on the role of polar bear in the culture of the Native people of Chukotka will be developed.

- Partner: University of Alaska – Fairbanks  
Title: **Rural Development Exchange**  
Contact: Dr. Gordon Pullar

The Rural Development Exchange will link up Alaskan and Chukotkan villages in the study of sustainable development. It will identify three villages on each side of the Bering Strait where studies will be conducted in development needs. The goals of the project are to foster an exchange of traditions and community development strategies between indigenous leaders of Chukotka and Alaska, and to provide experiential opportunities for students to explore the application of rural development methods within Beringian villages.

- Partner: Richard Bland & Associates  
Title: **Three Dikov Books**  
Contact: Richard Bland

Richard Bland will continue his translation series by translating from Russian to English three books by the renowned Russian archaeologist N. N. Dikov.

- Partner: King Island IRA  
Title: **King Island Song & Dance Preservation**





Contact: Ted Mayac

The King Island repertoire of songs and dances will be identified, practiced, and then videotaped. Research will be conducted on the origins of the dances to learn how some were exchanged between Chukotka and Alaska. Elders will be consulted on the less well known or rarely performed dances.

- Partner: Yukon-Charley, Gates of the Arctic NP  
Title: **Russian Participation in Mammoth Conference**  
Contact: Jeff Rasic

Funding was provided to bring Russian scientists to the Yukon for a conference on the mammoth. The group also traveled to Fairbanks and made field trips to Yukon-Charley and Gates of the Arctic National Park.

- Partner: Western Arctic Parklands & NANA  
Title: **Russian Participation in the 2004 Kattivik Trade Fair**  
Contact: Willie Goodwin

Russian dancers joined Alaskan dance groups at the 2004 Kattivik Trade Fair in Kotzebue in July. Heart-beat Alaska filmed for a one hour special on the Trade Fair and will produce a DVD for the community.

- Partner: Nome Community Center  
Title: **Remember the Past, Ensure the Future**  
Contact: Jean Tombaugh

Funding was provided to support after school activities for youth and their families in Chukotka to gain increased interest, knowledge and respect for Native traditional subsistence cultures of the North. Interest, knowledge and respect will also be gained for the natural environment of Beringia and how traditional knowledge can be integrated with modern ecological stewardship concepts.

- Partner: University of Alaska Museum  
Title: **Online database for Chukotka Flora Collection**  
Contact: Carolyn Parker

The University Museum has a collection of 20,000 dried and preserved vascular plant specimens from Russia, primarily Chukotka and Wrangel Island. A database listing the collection of the Chukotka flora is being prepared and will be available through the internet.

- Partner: Alaska Pacific Univ. Inst. of the North  
Title: **Teacher Workshop on Beringia Landscapes**  
Contact: Roger Pearson





A week-long workshop was held in Nome for Russian and Alaskan teachers to discuss Beringian geography and landscapes. Russian teachers traveled from the Moscow region and from three districts in Chukotka. Alaskan teachers participated from communities across the state. A wide variety of subjects were introduced and many local and regional Beringian leaders gave presentations.

- Partner: University of Alaska  
Title: **Chukotka Tourism Training & Development**  
Contact: Tandy Wallack

Tourism is just developing in Chukotka and Alaska companies are adding on Russian tours in their travel packages. Training was conducted in Nome, Kotzebue and Anchorage for local Russian tour operators and crafts people on how to conduct tourism on protected lands. Current Russian regulations were also discussed. The group visited local area businesses to study various aspects of the tourism industry.

- Partner: World Wildlife Fund  
Title: **Trunks Across the Bering Sea**  
Contact: Evie Witten

WWF conducted teacher environmental training for three Alaskan and three Russian village schools during Beringia Days 2002. The schools then worked on common projects during the school year and hold competitions for the best material.

- Partner: Seward Sea Life Center  
Title: **Arctic Observations: Student Journals**  
Contact: Mike Davis

A web-based writing curriculum is being developed for use in northern schools. The emphasis is to use the unique experience of students who live in the Arctic. They will maintain journals on natural and cultural observations and will develop web and graphics products based on the material written. Specialized topics will include conservation and NPS related material.

- Partner: University of Colorado  
Title: **Culture History of Beringia: An Archaeological Synthesis**  
Contact: Dr E James Dixon

The university is researching and producing a synthesis book on the archaeology of Beringia including Russian and American research viewpoints.

- Partner: Native Village of Savoonga  
Title: **St. Lawrence Island/Chukotka Language & Cultural Studies**  
Contact: John Waghiyi





Kldjfdskfjdk

Savoonga organized several cultural exchanges, including a summer language camp on St. Lawrence Island for Russian Yupik speakers.

- Partner: Kawerak, Inc. Eskimo Walrus Commission  
Title: **Chukotka Walrus Harvest Monitoring Project**  
Contact: Vera Metcalf

The Eskimo Walrus Commission provided training for Native Russian monitors who document the walrus harvest in Chukotka. The walrus population is a shared resource between the United States and Russia.

- Partner: Alaska Pacific University  
Title: **Documenting the Economic & Cultural Necessity of Subsistence in Chukotka**  
Contact: John Tichotsky

This study documented the economic importance of subsistence activities in Chukotka in selected villages. In recent years, subsistence was the sole source of food for many communities.

- Partner: University of Washington (Pullman) Researchers  
Title: **Paleo-Indian Archaeology & Paleoecology in the Noatak Basin**  
Contact: Jeff Rasic

A US-Russian team investigated past vegetative and geological changes as well as early-man archaeology at a site along the Noatak River.

- Partner: Shishmaref IRA  
Title: **Exchange between Shishmaref and Uelen Ivory Carving Traditions**  
Contact: Andrew Kakoona

Both Shishmaref in Alaska and Uelen in Chukotka are walrus ivory carving centers. This project facilitated an exchange between the two communities to study these traditions. Residents of Uelen traveled to Nome, Shishmaref and Kotzebue to demonstrate their sewing and carving skills. Members of the Shishmaref community traveled to Chukotka and presented their carving and sewing skills at a demonstration in the Provideniya Museum.

- Partner: University of Alaska - Fairbanks  
Title: **Global Change in the Marine Food Webs**  
Contact: Hector Douglas







A university scientist is studying the biochemical composition of sea bird diets in western Alaska and eastern Chukotka to index the health of the marine ecosystem.

- Partner: Northern Forum  
Title: **Brown Bear Management Workshop**  
Contact: Priscilla Wohl

A week long workshop for Russian biologists and managers was conducted in August 2002 on Kodiak Island and in Katmai National Park covering good management practices for brown bear populations, such as bear viewing, human-bear encounters, hunting regulations and law enforcement.

- Partner: National Audubon Society, Fish & Wildlife Service  
Title: **Important Bird Areas of the Bering Sea**  
Contact: Stanley Senner

An informative booklet is being produced identifying sensitive bird areas in the Beringia Region of the Bering Sea.

- Partner: Ernest S. Burch, Jr.  
Title: **Inupiaq Nations of Northwest Alaska: Partner of National Life**  
Contact: Ernest S. Burch, Jr.

This title will be a volume in the encyclopedia series produced by Dr. Burch on the history and anthropology of the Inupiaq people.

- Partner: Golovin Native Corporation  
Title: **Golovin Field School**  
Contact: Jack Fagerstrom

The Golovin Village Corporation and local school conducted their third archaeological field school session in July 2000 to train local students in culture and archaeology. In addition to classroom training conducted by UAF personnel, field work assessed the cultural sites on village corporation lands. Six students and two adults from Russia participated. Inuit Circumpolar Conference will assist the Golovin students with a reciprocal exchange to Provideniya, Russia.

- Partner: Native Village of Savoonga  
Title: **Portrait of a Divided Maritime Family**  
Contact: Saunders McNeill

This photographic and fine arts project documented Siberian Yupik elders in a traveling exhibit and collection. Residents of Nome and Savoonga in Alaska, and New Chaplino and Sireniki in Chukotka, Russia were highlighted.





- Partner: University of Alaska - Fairbanks  
Title: **Fungi of the Beringia Region**  
Contact: Dr. Gary Laursen

UAF scientists and colleagues from other world-wide universities and agencies conducted a comparative study of fungi between the Seward Peninsula and Kobuk Valley in Alaska and the Chukotka Peninsula in Russia. Earlier work produced the discovery of new species in the region and one new species known to the scientific community.

March 14, 2011



2004 Kingikmiut Dance Festival project (NPS photo by Greg Gusse).





